**What Is Claimed Is:**

1. A remote command system for a vehicle comprising:

a portable handheld short-range transmitter;

a short-range wireless receiver mounted on the vehicle, said short-range wireless receiver being capable of receiving a coded signal having a first predefined protocol from said portable handheld short-range transmitter, said coded signal containing a command to operate a predefined vehicle function, said short-range wireless receiver sends commands that operate predefined vehicle functions;

a long-range wireless communication system for sending a coded signal having a second predefined protocol that is different from said first predefined protocol; and

a gateway device mounted on said vehicle whereby said gateway device receives said coded signal from said long-range wireless communication device, translates said coded signal to said first predefined protocol and communicates said translated signal to said short-range receiver.

2. The system as claimed in claim 1 wherein said gateway device further comprises:

a long-range receiver that is capable of receiving said coded signal from said long-range wireless communication device; and

a wireless signal transmitter located on the vehicle for transmitting a command to said short-range receiver using said first predefined protocol.

3. The system as claimed in claim 2 wherein said wireless signal transmitter is a RF transmitter.

4. The system as claimed in claim 1 wherein said long-range wireless communication system is a cellular system.

5. The system as claimed in claim 1 wherein said long-range wireless communication system is a satellite system.

6. The device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said long-range wireless communication is a digital broadcast system.

7. The device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said long-range wireless communication system is an Internet connection.

8. The system as claimed in claim 1 wherein said long-range wireless communication system is a phone connection.

9. The system as claimed in claim 1 wherein said long-range wireless communication system is a pager system.

10. A method for long-range remote control of predetermined vehicle functions on a vehicle having a short-range receiver and a gateway device, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a long-range command from a wireless transmission source, said long-range command having a first predefined protocol;

translating said long-range command into a second predefined protocol;

transmitting said translated long-range command to a short-range wireless receiver;

operating the predefined vehicle function that corresponds to said translated long-range command.

11. The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein said step of receiving a long-range command further comprises receiving said long-range command by a long-range receiver; and

said step of transmitting said translated long-range command to a short-range wireless receiver further comprises transmitting said translated long-range command by a wireless transmitter located on said vehicle.

12. The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein said step of receiving a long-range command further comprises receiving a long-range command from a cellular system.

13. The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein said step of receiving a long-range command further comprises receiving a long-range command from a satellite system.

14. The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein said step of receiving a long-range command further comprises receiving a long-range command from a digital broadcast system.

15. The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein said step of receiving a long-range command further comprises receiving a long-range command from an Internet connection.

16. The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein said step of receiving a long-range command further comprises receiving a long-range command from a phone connection.

17. The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein said step of receiving a long-range command further comprises receiving a long-range command from a pager system.